

MCIWEST-MCB CAMP PENDLETON

2017 Critical Days of Summer Newsletter

Week 1: 22-26 May 2017





The summer months offer many opportunities to travel both inside of the United States and abroad. Risk Management is not just for training exercises, it can be used as a decision making tool to help identify risks and benefits in preparation for traveling. Thoughtful preparation when making travel plans can alleviate stress and greatly reduce the impact of emergencies when you're away from home, especially when traveling with children or in an unfamiliar destination. These travel tips will help you stay safe and make the best of your vacation:

Domestic Travel

- Airlines now recommend arriving at the airport 2 hours early for a domestic flight
- Limit the valuables you travel with and pack them in carry-on luggage
- Consider your destination and the time of year. The weather may be great but dangers still exist. For example, hurricane season is May – October for much of the south and east coast.
- Have a plan if something does go wrong (i.e. meeting points if separated, where to go if you are evacuated, what to do in the case of a terrorist attack)
- Use caution when traviling with firearms. The TSA, many airlines, individual states, and
 municipalities all have different requirements on the possession, storage, and transportation
 of firearms and ammunition. Just because you can possess it here (or the airline lets you
 on the plane with it) doesn't mean it is legal where you're going.
- Watch the news. Steer clear of cities and other areas which are experiencing active
 protests or are hotspots for negative political or social activity and do not participate if
 you encounter it.

Commanding General's Safety Hotline: (760)763-7233 Information – Camp Pendleton Base Safety Center (760) 763-3132

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- Bring adequate supplies of any prescription medications.
- Check with the TSA for current recommendations, security precautions and requirements.

Foreign Travel

- Register with the nearest U.S. Embassy by signing up for the Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP)
 - o Receive important information from the embassy about safety conditions in your destination country, helping you make informed decisions about your travel plans.
 - o Help the U.S. Embassy contact you in an emergency, whether natural disaster, civil unrest, or family emergency.
 - o Help family and friends get in touch with you in an emergency.
- Ensure you have all required travel documents
- <u>Check your passport expiration date.</u> Many countries require that you have six months left on your passport from the date of entry.
- Prepare for an emergency know where the embassy is, how to get there & how to dial emergency services or the embassy.
- Pack light so you can move more quickly and have a free hand when you need it.
- Carry a minimum number of valuables and plan places to conceal them.
- Use covered luggage tags to avoid casual observation of your identity and nationality.
- Avoid packing IDs, tickets and other vital documents in backpacks or other locations you
 won't be able to see at all times.
- Carry photocopies of your itinerary and travel documents.
- Learn about acceptable methods of payment abroad (types of currency, exchange rates, use of credit cards, etc).
- Learn about local laws and customs.
- Check to see if you need any new vaccinations.
- Learn how to find medical help abroad.
- Find out if your health insurance covers you outside the U.S.





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Links/ Resources

- Department of Homeland Security
 - o https://www.dhs.gov
- Department of State
 - o https://www.state.gov/
- STEP (U.S. Department of State) Smart Traveller Enrollment Program
 - o https://step.state.gov/
- TRiPS Travel Risk Planning System
 - o https://trips.safety.army.mil/TRiPS
- AAA American Automobile Association
 - o http://www.aaa.com
- TSA Domestic Travel Checklist
 - https://www.tsa.gov/travel/travel-tips/travel-checklist



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Risk Management, it's not just for the workplace.

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